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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/528,780	03/17/2000	Joerg Plamper	HBC-221-KFM	5327

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EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, ARMANDO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2828

DATE MAILED: 05/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/528,780	PLAMPER ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Armando Rodriguez	2828	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-7 and 11 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 3,8-10 and 12 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) .
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

The indicated allowability of claims 2,4-7 are withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Girmay. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2,4-7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Girmay (PN 5,414,280).

Regarding claim 1,

The method steps are anticipated by the combination of figures 2-4, where a measurement of the output power of the laser is determined based on the combination of the forward voltage and forward current as illustrated in figure 3 and described in the abstract.

Regarding claim 2,

The circuit illustrated in figure 5 anticipates the method steps, where the electrical implementation of the forward voltage and the forward current of figure 3 based on different temperatures is achieved.

Regarding claim 4,

Figure 4 illustrates a linear behavior of the forward voltage obtained by combination between the forward voltage and the forward current of figure 3.

Regarding claim 5-7,

In column 2 lines 4-9, Girmay suggest that a voltage driver could be used to drive the laser based on the combination of the forward voltage and forward current combination of figure 4.

Regarding claim 11,

Figure 4 illustrates at different temperatures the forward voltage of the laser by the combination of the forward voltage and the forward current of figure 3. It also illustrates the forward voltage necessary at different optical power outputs and temperature, where the power output can be set to a particular output based on the forward voltage as described in the abstract and column 2.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3,8-10 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

None of the cited prior arts alone or in combination discloses the claimed method steps for stabilizing the optical output power of a laser, as recited in dependent claims 3 and 11.

Regarding claims 3,8-10,

None of the recited prior arts alone or combination discloses the method steps of dependent claim 3 along with the limitations of all intervening claims and base claim, in particular where the forward voltage is measured via an analog/digital interface using a suitable data processing device, and wherein the forward current is controlled via a digital/analog interface such that the previously determined functional correlation is established between the set forward current and the measured forward voltage.

Regarding claim 12,

None of the recited prior art alone or in combination discloses the method steps of dependent claim 12 along with all intervening claims and base claim, in particular tracing the time progression of the light power during a power-up procedure and setting the parameters such that the light power remains constant in spite of the increasing temperature of the diode after power-up.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Armando Rodriguez whose telephone number is (703) 308-6218. The examiner can normally be reached on 10-hour day / M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Ip can be reached on (703) 308-3098. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7721 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-4881.


Armando Rodriguez
Examiner
Art Unit 2828


Paul Ip
Supervisor
Art Unit 2828

AR/PI
May 22, 2003